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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

EXCISE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: January 1958

THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE RETURNED TO THE RM/R CENTRAL FILES

SUBJECT: U. S. and U. K. Aid Negotiations with Libya

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. W. Morris, First Secretary, British Embassy
Mr. D. L. Benest, First Secretary, British Embassy
AFN - Mr. Porter, Director
Mr. Dorros, Officer in Charge, Northeast Africa Affairs

COPIES TO: AF (cc), AFN -3 (cc), ICA (cc), INR-2 (cc), BNA (cc)
Amembassies Tripoli (cc), London (cc), Benghazi (cc)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MP
REVIEWED BY G.M.Raz DATE 5/6/82
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AS EXEMPTED

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Mr. Morris called to receive the Department's reply to the suggestion made by the Foreign Office for continued U. S. - U. K. efforts to induce the Libyans to accept a tripartite review of their economic situation.

Mr. Porter said Libyan reaction to the joint approach made by the U. K. and U. S. Ambassadors on December 28 has convinced us it would be inadvisable to press further for tripartite talks. Consequently, the only choice left is bilateral discussions with the Libyans. We are anxious to begin our economic aid talks with them because of the limited time remaining to complete the negotiations and make the necessary administrative arrangements before the end of this fiscal year. In addition, we understand the Libyans are planning to present us with requests totalling an amount greatly in excess of our availabilities and wish to anticipate this move. We would, therefore, like to inform the Libyans of our aid level now unless the U. K. feels this would be likely to prejudice Anglo-Libyan negotiations. In that case, we are prepared to defer action until the end of January, at the latest. While the U. K. has been informed of our aid level for Libya this fiscal year, we would appreciate their not revealing this information to the Libyans. A telegram had been sent to London last night asking our Embassy to speak to the Foreign Office along these lines.

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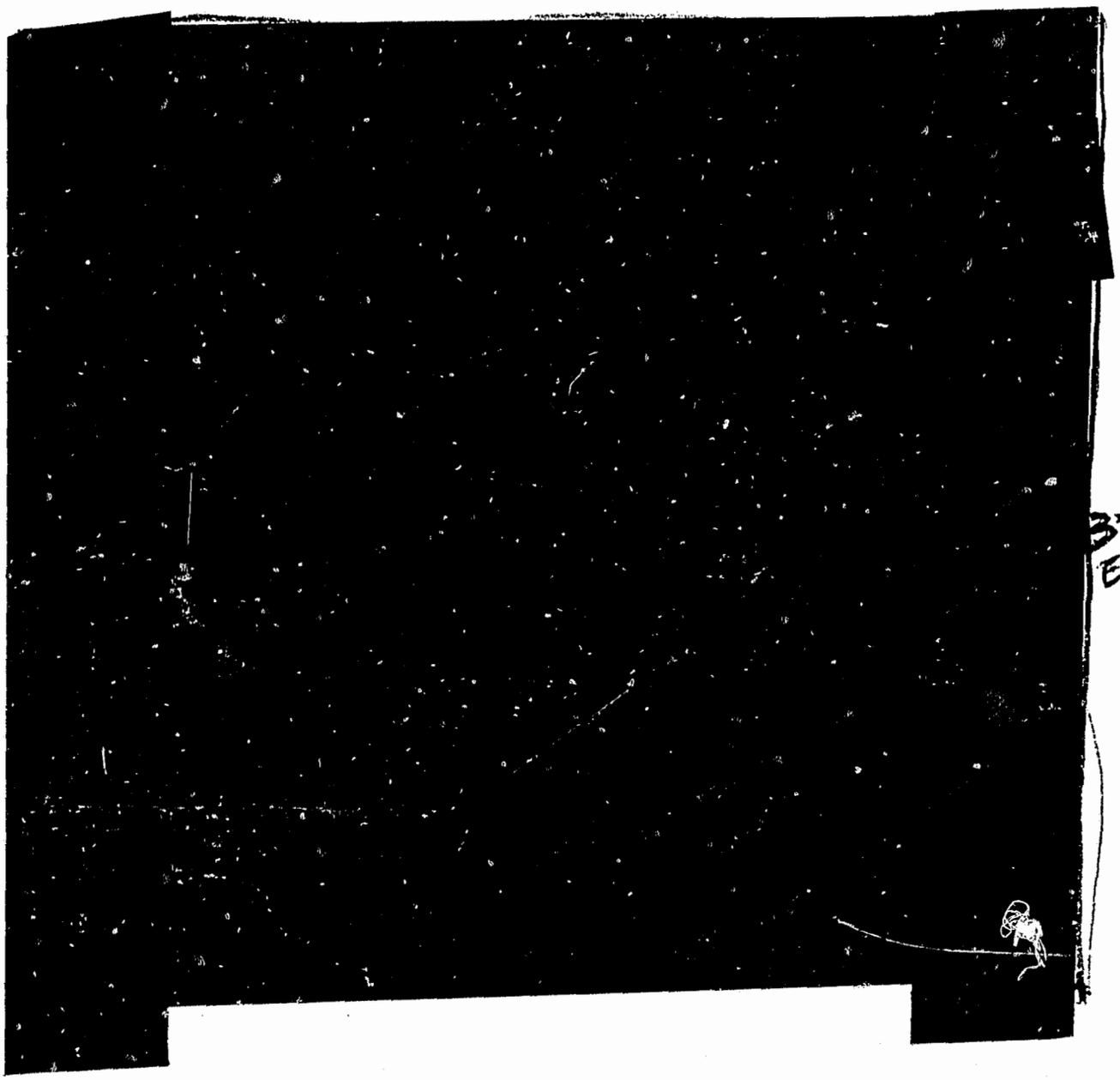

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January 9, 1958

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